Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Replace pending claims 37, 42 and 44 with the amended versions below. All pending claims, amended herein or not, are presented below.

32. (previously amended) A method for screening compounds for modulation of $GABA_B$ receptor 1 transcription, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a host cell hosting an expression system comprising a nucleic acid molecule constituting:

a promoter element selected from the group consisting of:

(i) a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1,

(ii) a nucleic acid molecule at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 1,

(iii) a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 2, and

(iv) a nucleic acid molecule at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 2; and

a reporter gene, wherein the promoter element is coupled to the reporter gene so that expression of the reporter gene is under the control of the promoter element;

(b) contacting a test compound with the cell; and

(c) determining whether the test compound modulates the level of expression of the reporter gene.

33. (previously added) The method according to claim 32, wherein the reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the firefly luciferase gene;

(b) the bacterial chloramphenicol acetyl transferase (CAT) gene;

(c) the ß-galactosidase (ß-Gal) gene; and

(d) the green fluorescent protein (GFP) gene.

34. (previously added) The method according to claim 32, wherein the host cell endogenously expresses at least one $GABA_B$ receptor 1.

35. (previously added) The method according to claim 32, wherein the host cell hosts an expression system comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding at least one transcription factor.

36. (previously added) The method according to claim 35, wherein the transcription factor is selected from the group consisting of: CREB-1, CREB-2, CREM-1, ATF-1, ATF-2, ATF-3, ATF-4, Sp1, Sp2, Sp3, Sp4, AP-1 and AP-2.

37. (currently amended) A method for screening compounds for modulation of $GABA_B$ receptor 1 transcription, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a host cell hosting an expression system comprising a nucleic acid molecule constituting:

a promoter element consisting essentially of (1) a functionally equivalent modified form of or (2) an active fragment of a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(i) ~~a~~ the nucleic acid molecule ~~comprising~~ defined as SEQ ID NO: 1, and

(ii) ~~a nucleic acid molecule at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 1,~~

~~(iii)~~ a the nucleic acid molecule ~~comprising~~ defined as SEQ ID NO: 2, ~~and~~

~~(iv) a nucleic acid molecule at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 2~~ and wherein the functionally equivalent modified form of (1) above is at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2; and

a reporter gene, wherein the promoter element is coupled to the reporter gene so that expression of the reporter gene is under the control of the promoter element;

(b) contacting a test compound with the cell; and

(c) determining whether the test compound modulates the level of expression of the reporter gene.

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38. (previously added) The method according to claim 37, wherein the reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the firefly luciferase gene;

(b) the bacterial chloramphenicol acetyl transferase (CAT) gene;

(c) the ß-galactosidase (ß-Gal) gene; and

(d) the green fluorescent protein (GFP) gene.

39. (previously amended) The method according to claim 37, wherein the host cell endogenously expresses at least one $GABA_B$ receptor 1.

40. (previously added) The method according to claim 37, wherein the host cell hosts an expression system comprising a nucleic acid molecule encoding at least one transcription factor.

41. (previously added) The method according to claim 40, wherein the transcription factor is selected from the group consisting of: CREB-1, CREB-2, CREM-1, ATF-1, ATF-2, ATF-3, ATF-4, Sp1, Sp2, Sp3, Sp4, AP-1 and AP-2.

42. (currently amended) A method for screening compounds for modulation of $GABA_B$ receptor 1 transcription, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a host cell hosting an expression system comprising a nucleic acid molecule constituting:

a promoter element consisting essentially of (1) a functionally equivalent modified form of or (2) an active fragment of ~~a~~ the nucleic acid molecule ~~at least 95% homologous to~~ defined as SEQ ID NO: 1, the promoter element comprising:

(i) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 3009-3016 of SEQ ID NO: 1,

(ii) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 3037-3044 of SEQ ID NO: 1, and

(iii) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 3116-3123 of SEQ ID NO: 1,

and wherein the functionally equivalent modified form of (1) above is at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 1; and

a reporter gene, wherein the promoter element is coupled to the reporter gene so that expression of the reporter gene is under the control of the promoter element;

(b) contacting a test compound with the cell; and

(c) determining whether the test compound modulates the level of expression of the reporter gene.

43. (previously added) The method according to claim 42, wherein the promoter element is not operably linked to a repressor region of a $GABA_B$ receptor 1 P1a promoter.

44. (currently amended) A method for screening compounds for modulation of $GABA_B$ receptor 1 transcription, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a host cell hosting an expression system comprising a nucleic acid molecule constituting:

a promoter element consisting essentially of (1) a functionally equivalent modified form of or (2) an active fragment of a the nucleic acid molecule ~~at least 95% homologous to~~ defined as SEQ ID NO: 2, the promoter element comprising the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4308-4315 of SEQ ID NO: 2

and wherein the functionally equivalent modified form of (1) above is at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 2, and

a reporter gene, wherein the promoter element is coupled to the reporter gene so that expression of the reporter gene is under the control of the promoter element;

(b) contacting a test compound with the cell; and

(c) determining whether the test compound modulates the level of expression of the reporter gene.

45. (previously added) The method according to claim 44, wherein the promoter element further comprises:

(i) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4080-4087 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(ii) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4196-4204 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(iii) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4241-4249 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(iv) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4272-4279 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

46. (previously added) The method according to claim 44, wherein the promoter element is not operably linked to a repressor region of a $GABA_B$ receptor 1 P1b promoter.

47. (previously added) The method according to claim 46, wherein the promoter element further comprises:

(i) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4080-4087 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(ii) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4196-4204 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(iii) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4241-4249 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(iv) the nucleic acid sequence of positions 4272-4279 of SEQ ID NO: 2.